

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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May 13, 2003

FROM: **MARK H. UFFER**, Director
 Arrowhead Regional Medical Center

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENTS FOR PERINATAL DATA

RECOMMENDATION: Approve agreements with the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative (CPQCC) and the Vermont Oxford Network (VON) to collect and distribute high quality information on perinatal outcomes and resource utilization, which allows for performance improvement and benchmarking in the perinatal care and neonatal intensive care units of the Medical Center for the period, January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This agenda item recommends the approval of agreements with CPQCC and VON for the collection, integration and reporting of perinatal information.

CPQCC is an outgrowth of an initiative proposed by the California Association of Neonatologists and is supported by the State of California Department of Health Services, Maternal and Child Health Branch. CPQCC exists to improve the health of pregnant women, infants and children by collecting high quality information on perinatal outcomes (e.g. birth and death rates, gestational age, weights and diagnosis) and resource utilization, which will then allow for performance improvement and benchmark processing in perinatal care and neonatal intensive care units throughout California.

CPQCC works with VON to integrate existing California perinatal databases with VON's existing data system. California statewide databases include automated birth and death files containing information that will complement the current dataset. In addition, all California hospitals participate in data collection for the Offices of Statewide Health Planning, which includes statistics regarding maternal and newborn discharge, re-hospitalization and cost of care information. The coordination of all current databases ultimately enhances and improves perinatal care and outcomes.

On a monthly basis, the Medical Center will submit data to CPQCC on non-identifying patient forms. CPQCC then compiles the data from all California hospital participants and transmits the data to VON for analysis. CPQCC will provide the Medical Center with risk-adjusted mortality and morbidity data on a quarterly basis including comparisons to similar hospitals, and regional and statewide aggregate data. In addition to the quarterly data, CPQCC will issue an annual report to the Medical Center with selected indicators that define the risk-adjusted perinatal and risk adjusted morbidity and mortality rates from participating sites. CPQCC will continue to aggregate selected results until such time that the Medical Center has a sufficient number of cases in order to ensure statistical accuracy in reporting results.

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The Medical Center will use the data provided by CPQCC to furnish the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with a benchmarking tool and to enhance performance improvement projects. The reports provided by CPQCC will also be used to assist with reporting requirements as mandated by the California Children's Services (CCS). CCS requires all CCS approved neonatal intensive care units, to submit statistical data on a yearly basis. CCS uses the data to follow trends and makes the information readily available to the hospitals it serves.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Charles J. Larkin, Deputy County Counsel) on April 11, 2003, and HSS Administration (Beatriz Valdez, Administrative Analyst) on May 1, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The total cost of these Agreements is \$4,000, of which \$2,500 is for the VON < 1,500 gram infant data set, and \$1,500 for the CPQCC selected infants > 1,500 gram data set. All monies will be paid to the CPQCC. This amount is available in the Medical Center's FY 2002/03 budget.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends these actions because the data provided by CPQCC and VON will be used as a key component in providing performance improvement and benchmarking information in the perinatal care and neonatal intensive care units of the Medical Center. This data will be used to better improve the health and welfare of the Medical Center's patients. No additional local cost.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: Mark H. Uffer, Director, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, 580-6150

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